

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BILL TASH**, on February 17, 2003 at 3:15 P.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Bill Tash, Chairman (R)
Sen. Aubyn Curtiss, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Sherm Anderson (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Bea McCarthy (D)
Sen. Dan McGee (R)
Sen. Gary L. Perry (R)
Sen. Glenn Roush (D)
Sen. Debbie Shea (D)
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Shirley Herrin, Committee Secretary
Krista Lee Evans, Legislative Branch

Video-taped Committee: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 350, 2/11/2003; SJ 7, 1/17/2003
SB 269, 1/31/2003
Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 350

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

3:16 _____ **SEN. DUANE GRIMES, SD 20, Clancy**, "Limit remedy for agency's failure to comply with MEPA procedures".

Proponents' Testimony:

3:20 _____ John Boomquist, MT Stockgrowers Assoc.
3:26 _____ Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Assoc. He stated that Gail Abercrombie, MT Petroleum Assoc. and Angie Janacaro, MT Mining Assoc. were in another hearing but would like to go on record in support of the bill.
3:29 _____ John Youngberg, MT Farm Bureau
3:30 _____ Dennis Iverson, MT Contractors Assoc.

Opponents' Testimony:

3:31 _____ Jeff Barber, MT Environmental Information Center
3:33 _____ Janet Ellis, MT Audubon

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

3:34 _____ Begin
3:51 _____ Ended
17 min _____ Time elapsed

Closing by Sponsor:

3:51 _____ **SEN. GRIMES** closed on SB 350.

HEARING ON SJ 7

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

3:53 _____ **REP. RICK LIABLE, SD 30, Victor** "Support national forest-county partnership restoration program".
Amendment SB000701.akl **EXHIBIT(nas35a01)** was presented.

Proponents' Testimony:

4:03 _____ Donna Sevalstad, Beaverhead County Commissioner,
4:04 _____ Elaine Mann, Broadwater County Commissioner
4:06 _____ Dan Bryant, Otero County, New Mexico, Retired Fire Captain **EXHIBIT(nas35a02)** **EXHIBIT(nas35a03)**
EXHIBIT(nas35a04)
4:14 _____ Randy Shipman, Sweetwater County, Wyoming
4:19 _____ Tom Lythgoe, Jefferson County Commissioner

Opponents' Testimony: _____ None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: ___None

Closing by Sponsor:

4:19 **REP. LIABLE** closed on SJ 7.

CHAIRMAN TASH announced the Committee need to determine whether they wanted to request a Committee Bill to do a study on the issues identified in **SEN. EMILY STONINGTON'S** bills, SB 240, SB 248, and SB 261. Krista Lee Evans stated the request had be submitted by 5:00pm on Tuesday, February 18, 2003. **SEN. KEN TOOLE** moved the committee request a Committee Bill. On a voice vote, **SEN. ANDERSON, MC GEE, CURTISS, LIABLE and TASH** voted no. The motion failed because it required a three-fourths vote.

Discussion:

4:22 Begin
4:27 Ended
5 min Time elapsed

SEN. TOOLE moved to reconsider action to request a committee bill. On a roll call vote the motion to reconsider passed unanimously.

4:29 **SEN. TOOLE** moved to request a Committee Bill to do a study addressing issues in **SEN. STONINGTON'S** bills SB 240, SB 248 and SB 261.

HEARING ON SB 269

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

4:31 **REP. RICK LIABLE, SD 30, Victor** "Declare disaster in national forests to empower counties to remove fire damage". Amendments were handed out SB026901.akl.
EXHIBIT (nas35a05)

Proponents' Testimony:

4:44 Dan Bryant, Otero County Attorney, New Mexico

Opponents' Testimony:

4:51 Don Judge, Sierra Club
4:55 Janet Ellis, MT Audubon
4:55 Donna Sevalstad, Beaverhead County Commissioner
 Elaine Mann, Broadwater County

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

4:56 **REP. LIABLE** closed on SB 269.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5 P.M.

SEN. BILL TASH, Chairman

SHIRLEY HERRIN, Secretary

BT/SH

EXHIBIT (nas35aad)